

## IN THE CLAIMS

1. (original) An ink jet recording ink containing water and a colorant comprising a pigment encapsulated by a polymer having a carboxyl group,

wherein said ink jet recording ink further contains at least methylisothiazolone and octylisothiazolone.

2. (original) The ink jet recording ink according to Claim 1, wherein the ink jet recording ink further contains macromolecular fine particles and a humectant,

the combined amount of the polymer and the macromolecular fine particles is at least 1%, and

the humectant content is at least 5%.

3. (original) The ink jet recording ink according to Claim 1, wherein the combined amount of the methylisothiazolone and the octylisothiazolone is at least 20 ppm and no more than 1000 ppm.

4. (original) The ink jet recording ink according to Claim 1, wherein the methylisothiazolone content is at least 10 ppm and no more than 500 ppm, and the octylisothiazolone content is at least 10 ppm and no more than 800 ppm.

5. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 1, wherein the pH of the ink jet recording ink is from 6 to 10.

6. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 1, wherein the ink jet recording ink further contains a polyhydric alcohol and a substance being capable of

lowering the dynamic surface tension of the ink to 40 mN/m or less as measured by the maximum bubble pressure method at the condition of 5 Hz or higher.

7. (Currently Amended) The ink jet recording ink according to Claim 6, wherein the substance being capable of lowering the dynamic surface tension of the ink to 40 mN/m or less as measured by the maximum bubble pressure method at the condition of 5 Hz or higher is at least one or more types of substance selected from the group consisting of acetylene glycol-based surfactants, acetylene alcohol-based surfactants, silicon-based surfactants, glycol ethers, ~~and/or~~ and 1,2 alkylene glycols.

8. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 1, wherein the colorant is an organic pigment or an inorganic pigment.

9. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 2, wherein the pH of the ink jet recording ink is from 6 to 10.

10. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 3, wherein the pH of the ink jet recording ink is from 6 to 10.

11. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 4, wherein the pH of the ink jet recording ink is from 6 to 10.

12. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 2, wherein the ink jet recording ink further contains a polyhydric alcohol and a substance being capable of lowering the dynamic surface tension of the ink to 40 mN/m or less as measured by the maximum bubble pressure method at the condition of 5 Hz or higher.

13. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 3, wherein the ink jet recording ink further contains a polyhydric alcohol and a substance being capable of lowering the dynamic surface tension of the ink to 40 mN/m or less as measured by the maximum bubble pressure method at the condition of 5 Hz or higher.

14. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 4, wherein the ink jet recording ink further contains a polyhydric alcohol and a substance being capable of lowering the dynamic surface tension of the ink to 40 mN/m or less as measured by the maximum bubble pressure method at the condition of 5 Hz or higher.

15. (Currently Amended) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 12, wherein the substance being capable of lowering the dynamic surface tension of the ink to 40 mN/m or less as measured by the maximum bubble pressure method at the condition of 5 Hz or higher is at least one or more types of substance selected from the group consisting of acetylene glycol-based surfactants, acetylene alcohol-based surfactants, silicon-based surfactants, glycol ethers, ~~and/or~~ and 1,2 alkylene glycols.

16. (Currently Amended) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 13, wherein the substance being capable of lowering the dynamic surface tension of the ink to 40 mN/m or less as measured by the maximum bubble pressure method at the condition of 5 Hz or higher is at least one or more types of substance selected from the group consisting of acetylene glycol-based surfactants, acetylene alcohol-based surfactants, silicon-based surfactants, glycol ethers, ~~and/or~~ and 1,2 alkylene glycols.

17. (Currently Amended) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 14, wherein the substance being capable of lowering the dynamic surface tension of the ink to 40 mN/m or

less as measured by the maximum bubble pressure method at the condition of 5 Hz or higher is at least one or more types of substance selected from the group consisting of acetylene glycol-based surfactants, acetylene alcohol-based surfactants, silicon-based surfactants, glycol ethers, ~~and/or~~ and 1,2 alkylene glycols.

18. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 2, wherein the colorant is an organic pigment or an inorganic pigment.

19. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 3, wherein the colorant is an organic pigment or an inorganic pigment.

20. (previously presented) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 4, wherein the colorant is an organic pigment or an inorganic pigment.

21. (new) The ink jet recording ink according to claim 1, wherein the methylisothiazolone and octylisothiazolone are present in the ink in respective amounts such that the ink has a better storage stability than the ink without the methylisothiazolone or octylisothiazolone.